

Application No.: 10/506,420

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 2 beginning on line 16 as follows:

--For example, when the bed is tilted laterally to the right as shown in FIG. 13B, a rotational moment $[[M1]]$ K1 generated around the rotational center (i.e. center of left-side roller 1202) is anti-clockwise; that is, rotational moment $[[M1]]$ K1 acts against the elevation of the side of platform 1015 (opposite of x direction in FIG. 13B). As a result, elevation unit 1035L is subject to a compression load from platform 1015.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 2 beginning on line 23 as follows:

--Furthermore, if platform 1015 continues to be tilted in this state, the position of a resultant W (i.e. resultant force) of the gravitational centers of the care recipient and platform 1015 moves to the right of a vertical line C containing (i.e. passing through) the rotational center, and the rotational moment $[[M1]]$ K1 around the fulcrum changes to clockwise; that is, the rotational moment $[[M1]]$ K1 is reversed to act in the same direction (x direction in FIG. 13C) as the elevation of the side of platform 1015 by elevation unit 1035L. As a result, the compression load brought to bear on elevation unit 1035L until this point changes to a tension load.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 7 beginning on line 16 as follows:

--FIGS. 4A & 4B are longitudinal sectional views of a bed frame and an adjustable stage taken along line 4A/4B-4A/4B of Fig. 3;--

Application No.: 10/506,420

Please amend the paragraph on page 7 beginning on line 18 as follows:

--FIGS. 5A & 5B are transverse sectional views of the bed frame and the adjustable stage taken along line 5A/5B-5A/5B of Fig. 3;--

Please amend the paragraph on page 13 beginning on line 10 as follows:

--FIGS. 4A and 4B are longitudinal sectional views of bed frame 10 and adjustable stage 20 along the [[A-A]] 4A/4B-4A/4B line in FIG. 3, FIG. 4A showing bed frame 10 in a horizontal state, and FIG. 4B showing bed frame 10 in a flexed state.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 14 beginning on line 13 as follows:

--FIGS. 5A and 5B are transverse sectional views of bed frame 10 and adjustable stage 20 along the [[B-B]] 5A/5B-5A/5B line in FIG. 3, FIG. 5A showing bed frame 10 in a horizontal state, and FIG. [[5A]] 5B showing left-side section 12L in a raised state (moving direction depicted by arrow A).--

Please amend the paragraph on page 19 beginning on line 4 as follows:

--FIG. 8 is a perspective view of fixed stage 30 with adjustable stage 20 in an elevated state, and FIG. 9 is a lateral view of elevation unit 35L from the right side (moving direction depicted by arrow B).--

Please amend the paragraph on page 25 beginning on line 21 as follows:

--Once left side section 12L has been raised and the middle and right side sections 11 and 12R have been flexed as a result of the above operations, actuators M4R attached to elevation

Application No.: 10/506,420

unit 35R on the right side is extended, and bar receiver 36R rises, receiving stage bar 27R. As a result, adjustable stage 20, as shown in FIG. 10, begins to roll to the left (moving direction depicted by arrow C). In other words, the platform is tilted by right-side elevation unit 35R, raising the right side of the platform.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 26 beginning on line 11 as follows:

--Once the rolling has started, the position acted on by resultant W of the gravitational forces of bed frame 10, adjustable stage 20 and the care recipient is, as shown also in FIG. 11B, to the left of vertical line C containing the rotational center, being the center of roller 202 (and 200). The rotational moment $[[M1]]$ K1 around the rotational center resulting from resultant W acts in a downward direction (counter to x direction) $[[on lowers]]$ to lower elevation unit 35L. This results in elevation unit 35L being subjected to a compression load from adjustable stage 20.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 26 beginning on line 21 as follows:

--Elevation unit 35L elevates bar receiver 36L so that a rotational moment greater than the above rotational moment $[[M1]]$ K1 acts of the rotational center. Resultant W of the gravitational forces of bed frame 10, adjustable stage 20, and the care recipient referred to here equates of load-applying unit 50 not being attached (i.e. inactive).--

Please amend the paragraph on page 27 beginning on line 3 as follows:

--Furthermore, as shown in FIG. 11C, when adjustable stage 20 is rolled, roller 202 (and 200) moves further to the left than in FIG. 11B, and the position of W, which indicates the resultant of the gravitational forces of bed frame 10, adjustable stage 20 and the care recipient,

Application No.: 10/506,420

passes to the right of vertical line C containing the rotational center at the time, and the rotational moment $[[M1]] \ K1$ around the rotational center resulting from this resultant W acts in a direction (x direction) that pulls elevation unit 35L up.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 28 beginning on line 2 as follows:

--Also, because of the compression load acting continuously on elevation unit 35L from the start of the rolling, and a load (compression) acting constantly on actuator M4L of elevation unit 35L in a direction that resists the tilting of adjustable stage 20, there is no change in type of load, even if the direction of the rotation moment $[[M1]] \ K1$ acting on adjustable stage 20 reverses during the tilting of adjustable stage 20. Even in this case, however, there is no operational unevenness, and no sudden changes in the rolling speed (tilt speed) of adjustable stage 20.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 32 beginning on line 5 as follows:

--On the other hand, when piston 155 is pulled out from cylinder 151 until just before load-applying unit 150 reaches a maximum overall length, compression spring SP2 applies a load P1 in a direction that narrows the interval between support arms 354R/356R and 354L/356L. For this reason, as shown in FIG. 11C, even if rotational moment $[[M1]] \ K1$ around the center (rotational center) of the rollers resulting from the entire platform changes to the rolling direction, for example, there is no reversal of the load exerted on elevation units 35R/35L by adjustable stage 20 (platform). Consequently, as with the above embodiment 1, any jolting of a care recipient lying on bed 1 is eliminated, as are sudden changes in the tilt speed during the rolling.--

Please amend the word "CLAIMS" on page 39, line 1 to read --We Claim:--